

JOE BENITEZ'S

THE MECHANICAL MENAGERIE

Lady Mechanika™

image

1
MAY



WIND
MONTIEL
CM



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HOLLY-RODING

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and MARTIN
MONTIEL

The
Mechanical
Menagerie

Chapter
One

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INSPECTOR
SINGH! I WAS NOT
EXPECTING YOU TO
PULL UP IN AN OFFICIAL
POLICE VEHICLE. WHAT
WILL THE NEIGHBORS
THINK?

SOMEHOW
I DON'T THINK
YOU'LL LOSE ANY
SLEEP OVER
IT.

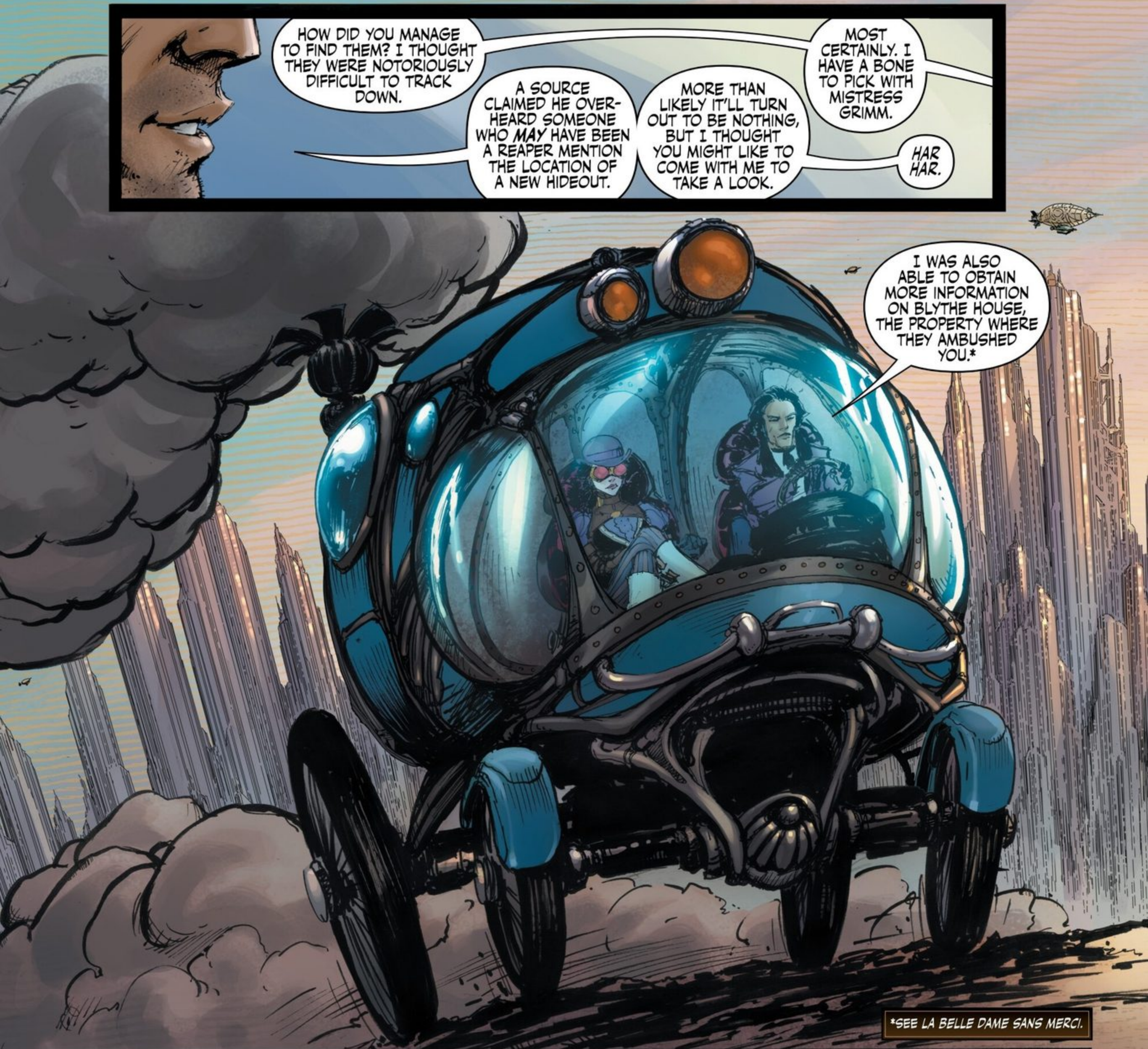
HEH.
YOU'RE
PROBABLY
RIGHT.

I REQUISITIONED IT
FROM THE DEPARTMENT
FOR THE DAY. WE'VE GOT
QUITE A WAY TO GO AND
I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE
MORE CONVENIENT THAN
HIRING A CARRIAGE.

IS THIS AN
AUTHORIZED
OUTING?

WELL, IT *IS* PART
OF MY DUTIES TO PROTECT
THE PUBLIC FROM DANGEROUS
CRIMINALS. AND FEW ARE MORE
DANGEROUS THAN MISTRESS
GRIMM AND HER GANG OF
REAPERS.





HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO FIND THEM? I THOUGHT THEY WERE NOTORIOUSLY DIFFICULT TO TRACK DOWN.

A SOURCE CLAIMED HE OVERHEARD SOMEONE WHO MAY HAVE BEEN A REAPER MENTION THE LOCATION OF A NEW HIDEOUT.

MORE THAN LIKELY IT'LL TURN OUT TO BE NOTHING, BUT I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO COME WITH ME TO TAKE A LOOK.

MOST CERTAINLY. I HAVE A BONE TO PICK WITH MISTRESS GRIMM.

HAR HAR.

I WAS ALSO ABLE TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION ON BLYTHE HOUSE, THE PROPERTY WHERE THEY AMBUSHED YOU.*

*SEE LA BELLE DAME SANS MERCI.



YOU HAVE BEEN BUSY WHILE I WAS AWAY!

JUST DOING MY JOB, MISS.



OWNERSHIP OF THE HOUSE WAS APPARENTLY IN DISPUTE, BUT YOU MAY BE INTERESTED TO LEARN THE NAME OF ONE OF THE CLAIMANTS...

LORD NATHANIEL BLACKPOOL.

BLACKPOOL! I ALWAYS SUSPECTED HE WAS BEHIND THE AMBUSH!



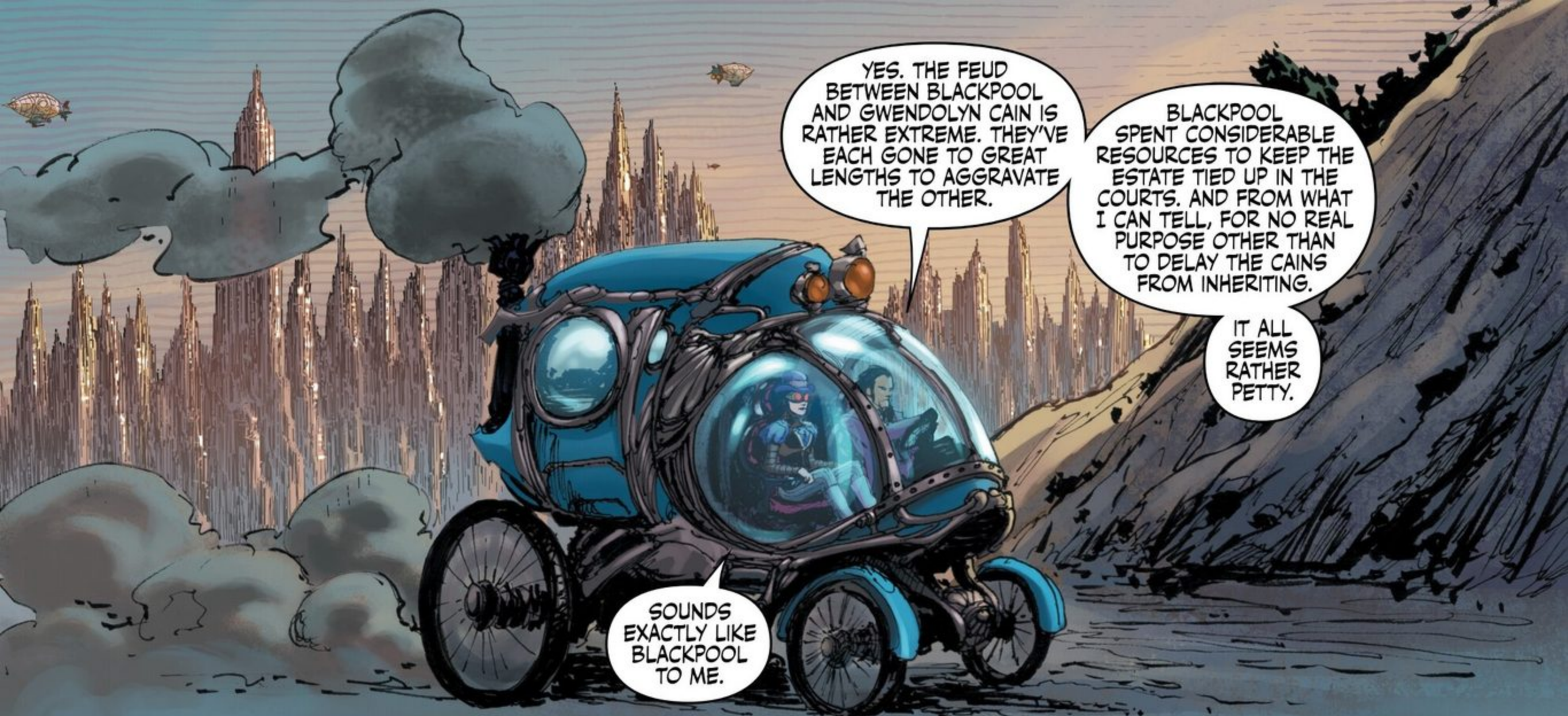
IT MAY LINK HIM TO THE LOCATION, BUT IT'S NOT DEFINITIVE PROOF HE WAS BEHIND THE ATTACK.

NO...NO, OF COURSE NOT.

THE PROPERTY IS PART OF A LARGER ESTATE THAT BELONGED TO A RELATIVE OF HIS FATHER'S SECOND WIFE.

BLACKPOOL APPEARS TO HAVE PUT A CLAIM ON IT JUST TO PROVOKE HIS STEP-SIBLINGS.

THE CAINS.



YES. THE FEUD BETWEEN BLACKPOOL AND GWENDOLYN CAIN IS RATHER EXTREME. THEY'VE EACH GONE TO GREAT LENGTHS TO AGGRAVATE THE OTHER.

BLACKPOOL SPENT CONSIDERABLE RESOURCES TO KEEP THE ESTATE TIED UP IN THE COURTS. AND FROM WHAT I CAN TELL, FOR NO REAL PURPOSE OTHER THAN TO DELAY THE CAINS FROM INHERITING.

IT ALL SEEMS RATHER PETTY.

SOUNDS EXACTLY LIKE BLACKPOOL TO ME.



WHATEVER HIS REASONS, THE DISPUTE LEFT THE HOUSE UNTENANTED FOR YEARS, AT LEAST ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL RECORDS.

DO YOU STILL THINK YOU HAD BEEN TO BLYTHE HOUSE PRIOR TO THAT INCIDENT?

I...I DON'T KNOW. SOMETHING ABOUT THE PLACE TRIGGERED A MEMORY. IF IT EVEN WAS A MEMORY AND NOT SOME KIND OF HALLUCINATION OR...OR VISION.

YOU MENTIONED EXPERIENCING VISIONS DURING YOUR TIME IN SIBERIA.

YES, BUT I ALSO TOOK A TUMBLE OFF A RATHER TALL MOUNTAIN.



ARE YOU CERTAIN YOU'VE FULLY RECOVERED FROM ALL YOUR INJURIES? YOU DO SEEM A TAD...PEAKY. PERHAPS WE SHOULD POSTPONE THIS TRIP TO A LATER DATE.

NO, I'M FINE! DR. LITTLETON GAVE ME A CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH.

I'M GLAD TO HEAR IT.

THE DOCTOR HAS BEEN A TREMENDOUS HELP. I'M LUCKY HE OFFERED TO ASSIST WITH MY RECOVERY.

AND MR. LEWIS, HOW IS HE? I HOPE THE FALLING OUT BETWEEN YOU IS ALL PATCHED UP AS WELL?



SIGH I'M AFRAID SOME THINGS WILL REQUIRE A BIT MORE TIME TO MEND COMPLETELY...





UNCLE
ARCHIE! YOU'RE
MISSING ALL
THE FUN!

UNGH...

GONNA
JUST... SIT 'ERE
FOR A BIT AN'...
AN' REST MY
LEGS...

WHAT'S
WRONG WITH
MR. LEWIS?

OH, HE'S
BEEN A TAD MIFFED
BECAUSE I CALLED
HIM A CHEATER.

YOU DID
WHAT?

WELL, HE
WAS! AND HE
TOOK IT OUT ON
LADY ME...ON YOU
KNOW WHO.

HMPH!



CAW
CAW

CAW

OH NO!
OUR POOR
KITE!

I'LL
GET IT!

I...
OOMPH!

HELP! MONTI
TRAPPED! MONTI
TRAPPED!

hee-hee
DON'T WORRY,
MONTI!

WE'LL
SAVE YOU!
hee-hee
hee

I DON'T
BELIEVE IT.
CHARLOTTE, DO
YOU SEE WHAT
I SEE?



IT LOOKS LIKE ONE OF THOSE WHOZIES OR WHATZIES. YOU KNOW, FROM THAT ZOO I USED TO TAKE YOU TO.

WHIMZIES! YOU'RE RIGHT, MOTHER! THAT LITTLE BEAR DOES LOOK LIKE A WHIMZIE!



A WHIMZIE? WHAT'S A WHIMZIE? I THOUGHT MONTI WAS UNIQUE.

NONSENSE! I USED TO TAKE CHARLOTTE TO A PLACE FULL OF MECHANICAL ANIMALS JUST LIKE IT! PERFECT PLACE FOR CHILDREN. KEPT THEM OCCUPIED FOR HOURS.

OH, I DID SO LOVE THEM. THEY WERE DELIGHTFUL!

MY...MY APOLOGIES... LADIES...



'AVE THE GIRLS...BEEN BOTHERIN' YOU?

AND YOU ARE?

THAT'S MY UNCLE ARCHIE.

AND I KNOW HE'D LOVE TO HEAR ALL ABOUT THIS PLACE WITH THE MECHANICAL ANIMALS!

ARCHIBALD LEWIS, MA'AM. PLEASD TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE.



YES, WELL, AS I WAS TELLING YOUR NIECE, WE USED TO VISIT A ZOO WITH AUTOMATONS THAT LOOKED JUST LIKE HER LITTLE BEAR. CHARLOTTE, WHAT WAS THE PLACE CALLED AGAIN?

THE WORLD OF WHIMZIES, MOTHER. THEY HAD THE MOST AMAZING CREATURES. DRAGONS, GRYPHONS ...EVEN UNICORNS!

A ZOO FILLED WIT' AUTOMATONS LIKE MONTI? SOUNDS FANTASTIC! I'M SURPRISED I NEVER 'EARD OF IT.

WE HAVE TO GO!

OH YES, MR. LEWIS? CAN WE, PLEASE?



I'M SO SORRY,
BUT THE ZOO HAS
BEEN CLOSED FOR
YEARS.

OH,
THAT'S A
SHAME.

CAN YOU TELL
US WHERE IT IS,
ANYWAY, MA'AM?
MAYBE THEY LEFT
SOMETHING
BEHIND.

I DON'T SEE THE
HARM. IT WAS JUST
PAST THE LAST STOP
ON THE MONORAIL,
WITH A BIG "W" OVER
THE GATES.

CAN WE
GO, UNCLE
ARCHIE?

IT'LL BE
SO MUCH FUN.
PLEASE, MR.
LEWIS?

THINK OF ALL
THE WONDERFUL
MACHINES WE
MIGHT SEE!

YAY!!

A LITTLE
WHILE LATER,
THE MECHANIKA
CITY MONORAIL,
TREVITHICK
STATION.

THE LADY
SAID TO GO
THIS WAY!
COME ON!

NO' SO
FAST!

I GUESS
IT SHOULD
BE ALL RIGHT.
AS LONG AS I
GET YOU BOTH
BACK BEFORE
SUPPER.





GIMME A CHANCE TO...
HUFF HUFF...
TO CATCH MY BREATH...



GIRLS?

EEEEK!



FRED!

ALLIE!



HUFF
HUFF



GIRLS! ARE YOU...



WE FOUND IT! WE FOUND IT!



"W" FOR WHIMZIES! THIS MUST BE IT!

THE GATE'S NOT LOCKED! LET'S GO LOOK AROUND!

CREAK

GIRLS, SLOW DOWN AN' WATCH YOUR STEP! THIS PLACE LOOKS LIKE IT'S FALLIN' APART!

WHERE ARE ALL THE AUTOMATONS?

THEY MUST BE INSIDE THERE!



WAIT! I DON' KNOW IF IT'S SAFE--

WE'LL BE CAREFUL, UNCLE ARCHIE!

THERE HAS TO BE A WAY IN.

OVER HERE! WE CAN SQUEEZE THROUGH...

GAASP!

GIRLS?



GIRLS!



UNGHH...

WOW...

BLIMEY...



IMPRESSIVE CONSTRUCTION BUT I DON'T THINK THEY RESEMBLE MONTI AT ALL, AT LEAST NO' IN APPEARANCE. IT'S TOO BAD WE CAN'T SEE THEM MOVE...

UNCLE ARCHIE, LOOK AT THESE! THEY WERE KEPT PROTECTED UNDER THE GLASS.

INCREDIBLE!

MAYBE YOU COULD GET THEM TO WORK AGAIN!

HMMM... LE' ME TAKE A--

WHO THE BLOODY HELL ARE YOU?!

ST. MARY MAGDALENE
ABBAY, LINCOLNSHIRE
HOLLOW.



THEIR HIDEOUT
IS SUPPOSED TO BE IN
A GRAVEYARD? I BELIEVE
THAT SOURCE OF YOURS
WAS PULLING YOUR LEG,
INSPECTOR.

PROBABLY,
BUT I--

WAIT...I
THINK I HEARD
VOICES...



LOOKS LIKE
YOUR SOURCE WAS
RIGHT AFTER ALL.



IT IS THE
REAPERS.



I RECOGNIZE
ONE OF THEM
FROM--



WELL
LOOK WHAT
WE GOT
HERE...





INTRUDERS!

POLICE--

UNGH!

COPPERS
NO BETTER THAN
THIEVES.

HYAH!

THUNK

KRAK



MECHANIKA
CITY POLICE!
LOWER YOUR
WEAPONS!

YOU'RE A
TAD OUTTA YOUR
JURISDICTION,
MATE!

GET
'EM!



HOLD!

REAPERS,
STAND
DOWN!

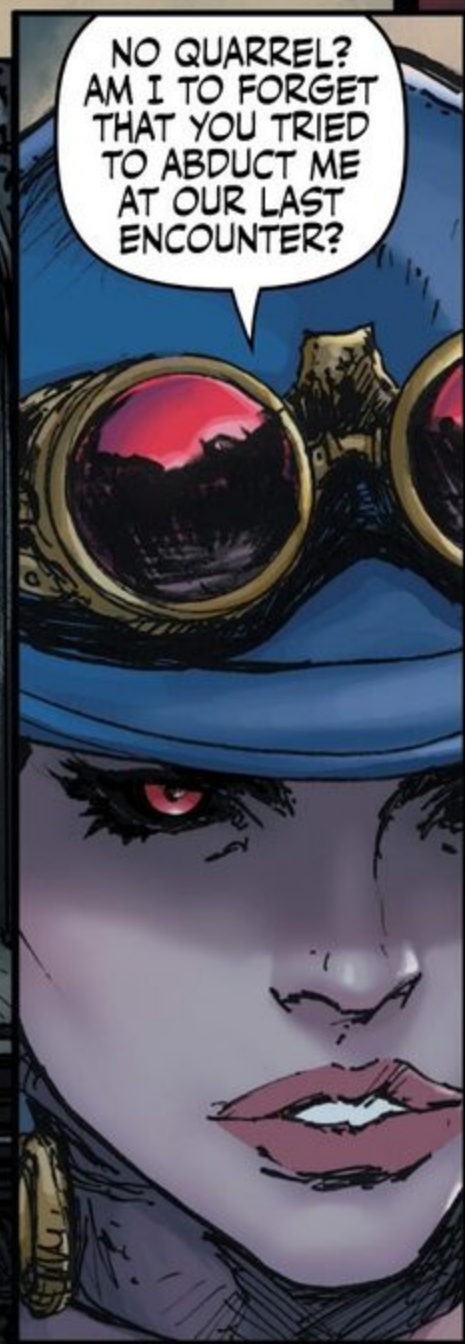
THERE IS NO NEED
FOR SUCH...THEATRICALS.
WE HAVE NO QUARREL WITH
OUR GUESTS, UNEXPECTED
AND UNINVITED THOUGH
THEY MAY BE.



YOU HONOR US
WITH YOUR PRESENCE,
LADY MECHANIKA AND
INSPECTOR...WHOEVER
YOU ARE. PLEASE,
MAKE YOURSELVES
COMFORTABLE.

BOYS,
BACK TO YOUR
DUTIES.

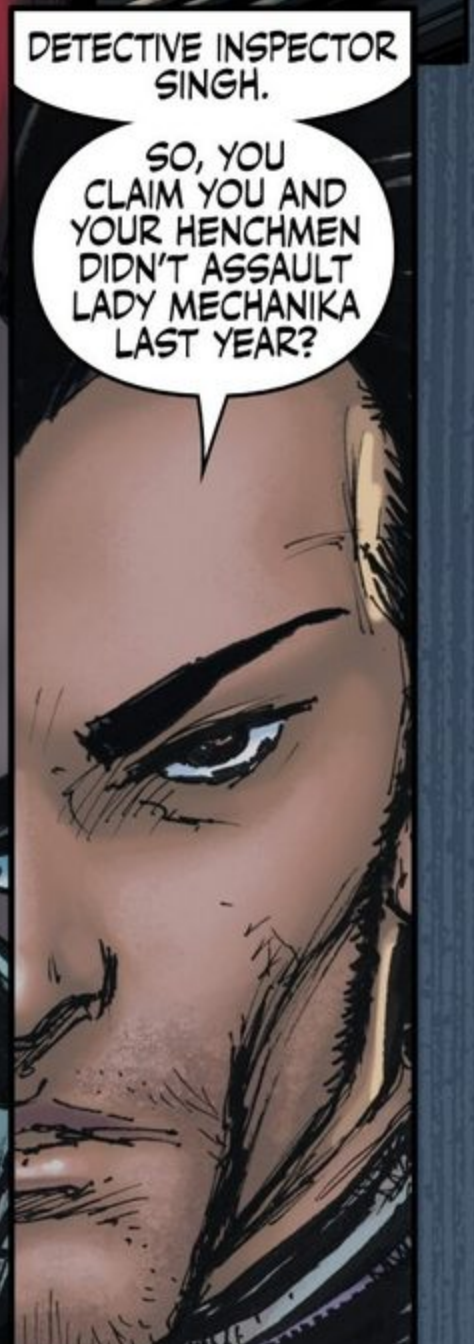
YES,
MISTRESS!



NO QUARREL?
AM I TO FORGET
THAT YOU TRIED
TO ABDUCT ME
AT OUR LAST
ENCOUNTER?



ABDUCT! DON'T
BE SO MELODRAMATIC, MY
DEAR! I WOULDN'T WANT YOUR
HANDSOME FRIEND HERE TO
THINK WE WERE ENGAGED IN
UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES!



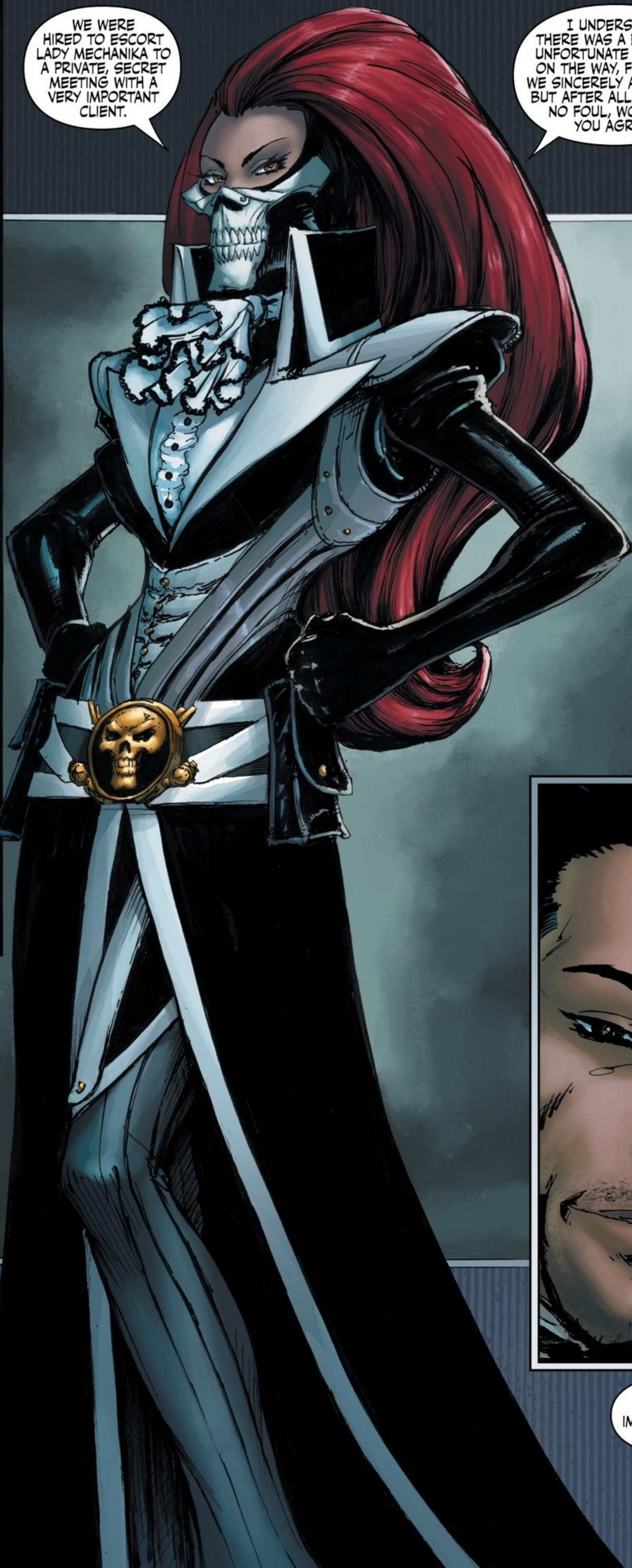
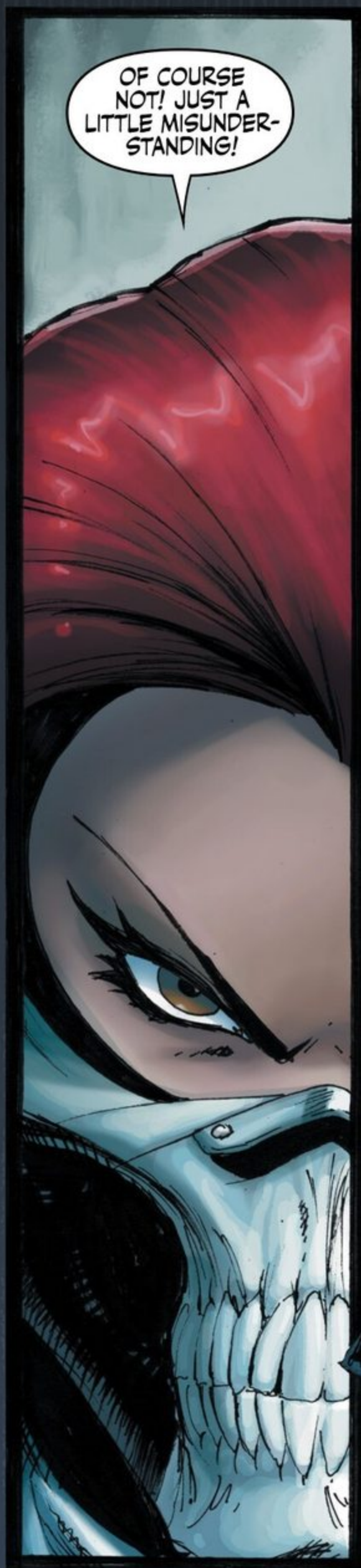
DETECTIVE INSPECTOR
SINGH.

SO, YOU
CLAIM YOU AND
YOUR HENCHMEN
DIDN'T ASSAULT
LADY MECHANIKA
LAST YEAR?

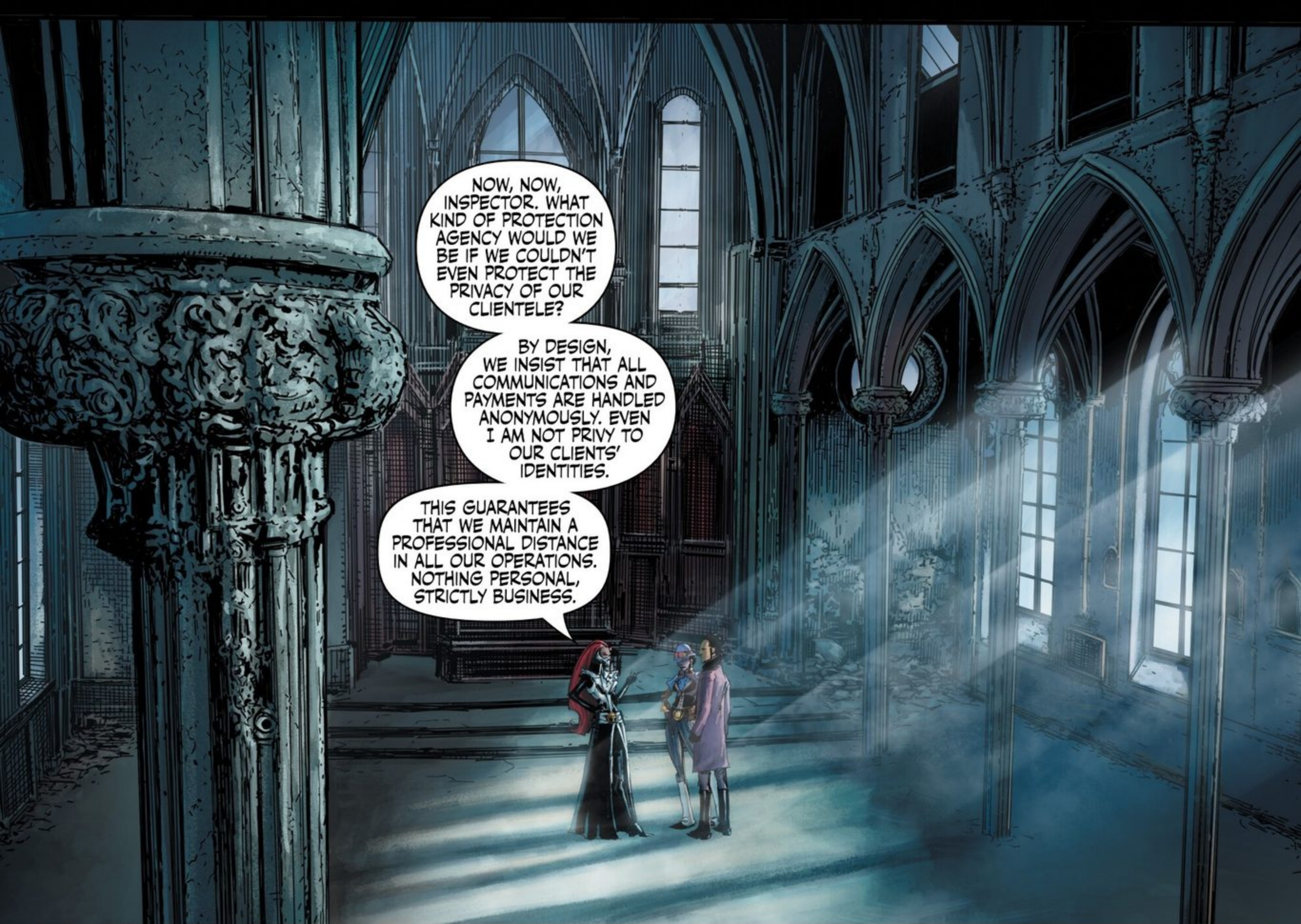
OF COURSE
NOT! JUST A
LITTLE MISUNDER-
STANDING!

WE WERE
HIRED TO ESCORT
LADY MECHANIKA TO
A PRIVATE, SECRET
MEETING WITH A
VERY IMPORTANT
CLIENT.

I UNDERSTAND
THERE WAS A BIT OF AN
UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT
ON THE WAY, FOR WHICH
WE SINCERELY APOLOGIZE,
BUT AFTER ALL, NO HARM
NO FOUL, WOULDN'T
YOU AGREE?



AND WHO
WAS THIS VERY
IMPORTANT CLIENT
OF YOURS?



NOW, NOW, INSPECTOR. WHAT KIND OF PROTECTION AGENCY WOULD WE BE IF WE COULDN'T EVEN PROTECT THE PRIVACY OF OUR CLIENTELE?

BY DESIGN, WE INSIST THAT ALL COMMUNICATIONS AND PAYMENTS ARE HANDLED ANONYMOUSLY. EVEN I AM NOT PRIVY TO OUR CLIENTS' IDENTITIES.

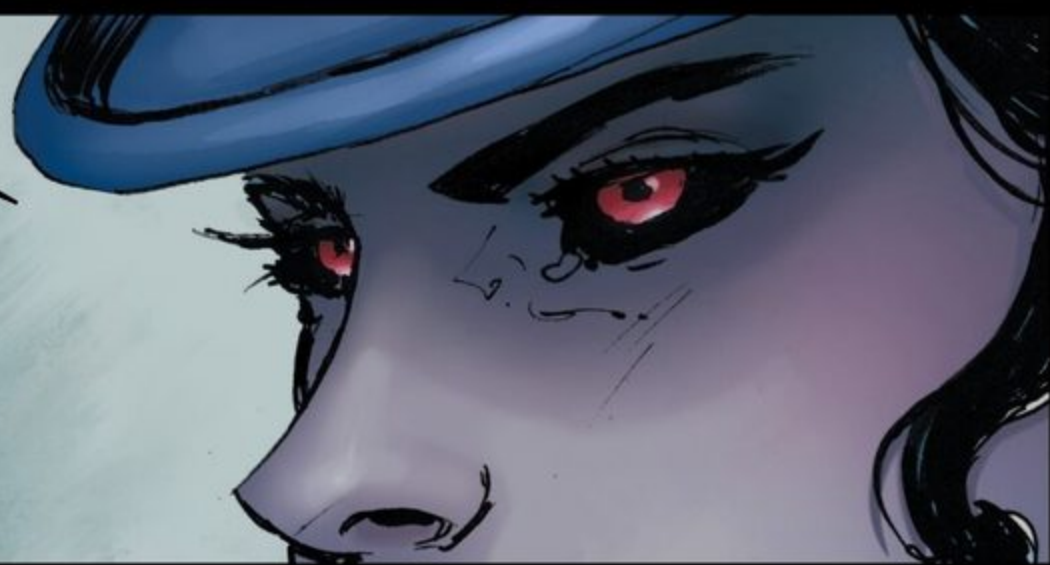
THIS GUARANTEES THAT WE MAINTAIN A PROFESSIONAL DISTANCE IN ALL OUR OPERATIONS. NOTHING PERSONAL, STRICTLY BUSINESS.



OUR ENCOUNTER SEEMED QUITE PERSONAL, MADAME GRIMM.

MISTRESS GRIMM, IF YOU PLEASE, LADY MECHANIKA.

AND CAN YOU REALLY BLAME THE BOYS IF THEY WERE A LITTLE... RAMBUNCTIOUS? IT'S NOT EVERY DAY THEY GET THE CHANCE TO INTERACT WITH SUCH A LEGEND AS YOURSELF.



I DO APOLOGIZE FOR FAILING TO DELIVER YOU SAFELY TO YOUR... MEETING.

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME THE REAPERS HAVE EVER FAILED AN ASSIGNMENT, AND I ASSURE YOU, IT WILL BE THE LAST.

IF YOU ARE EVER IN NEED OF OUR SERVICES, YOU ARE MORE THAN WELCOME TO CONTACT US. USING THE PROPER ANONYMOUS CHANNELS, OF COURSE.

NOW, IF THERE ARE NO FURTHER INQUIRIES, MIGHT I OFFER YOU A SPOT OF TEA?



WHAT THE DEVIL DO YOU THINK YOU ARE DOING HERE?!

THIS IS PRIVATE PROPERTY AND YOU ARE TRESPASSING!

MY APOLOGIES, SIR, FOR INTRUDIN' BUT WE 'EARD ABOUT THE WONDROUS AUTOMATONS 'ERE AN' THE GIRLS JUST HAD TO COME TAKE A LOOK. WE THOUGH' THE PLACE WAS ABANDONED.

WELL, IT CLEARLY IS NOT! GO ON! GET OUT BEFORE I CALL THE CONSTABULARY!

WE DIDN'T MEAN ANY HARM, SIR! PLEASE DON'T MAKE US GO! WE JUST WANTED TO SEE THE WHIMZIES!

THEY'RE LIKE ME!

YOU! WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU?

WHERE DID YOU GET THAT?!

GET WHA'?

THE BEAR, THE BEAR!
WHERE DID IT COME FROM?!

JIANG!?!

IT WAS BUILT BY MASTER JIANG, A TOYMAKER 'ERE IN MECHANIKA C'I'Y.





JEWISH MAGIC? I GUESS THAT IS MORE BELIEVABLE THAN THAT NO GOOD CHEAT HAVING AN ACTUAL IMAGINATION.

A BEAR! HMPH! OF ALL THE THINGS HE COULD HAVE CHOSEN, OF COURSE HE WOULD MAKE A MERE TOY BEAR! NO CREATIVITY AT ALL!

LOOK AT ALL MY CREATIONS! CENTAURS, MERMAIDS, GRYPHONS, DRAGONS! NOW THAT IS CREATIVITY! IT TAKES TRUE INGENUITY TO COME UP WITH THESE!



PLEASE, MISTER, COULD WE JUST TAKE A PEEK? WE WON'T TOUCH ANYTHING, I SWEAR.



YES, PLEASE! WE HEARD SUCH FASCINATING STORIES, AND WE CAME ALL THIS WAY JUST TO SEE THEM!

THEY LOOK SO AMAZING!



HURUMPH. YES, WELL, YOU SEEM LIKE FINE RESPECTABLE YOUNG LADIES WITH EXCEPTIONAL TASTE, SO...I SUPPOSE I COULD GRANT YOU A TOUR. A *BRIEF* TOUR.



≡AH≡ LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! IT IS MY DISTINCT HONOR AND PRIVILEGE TO WELCOME YOU TO THE MOST EXTRAORDINARY, EXCITING, AND UNIQUE PARK IN ALL THE WORLD!

I AM PROFESSOR WHIM, MASTER OF CEREMONIES AND PROPRIETOR OF THIS HUMBLE ESTABLISHMENT WHERE YOU WILL SEE WONDERS THAT WILL ASTOUND AND AMAZE!

HERE YOU WILL ENCOUNTER ALL MANNER OF CREATURES FROM EVERY CORNER OF THE WORLD AND BEYOND. HOBNOB WITH LEGENDARY BEINGS OF MYTH, EXPLORE THE PARK ATOP FANTASTICAL BEASTS FROM YOUR IMAGINATION.

WELCOME TO THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF WHIMZIES!



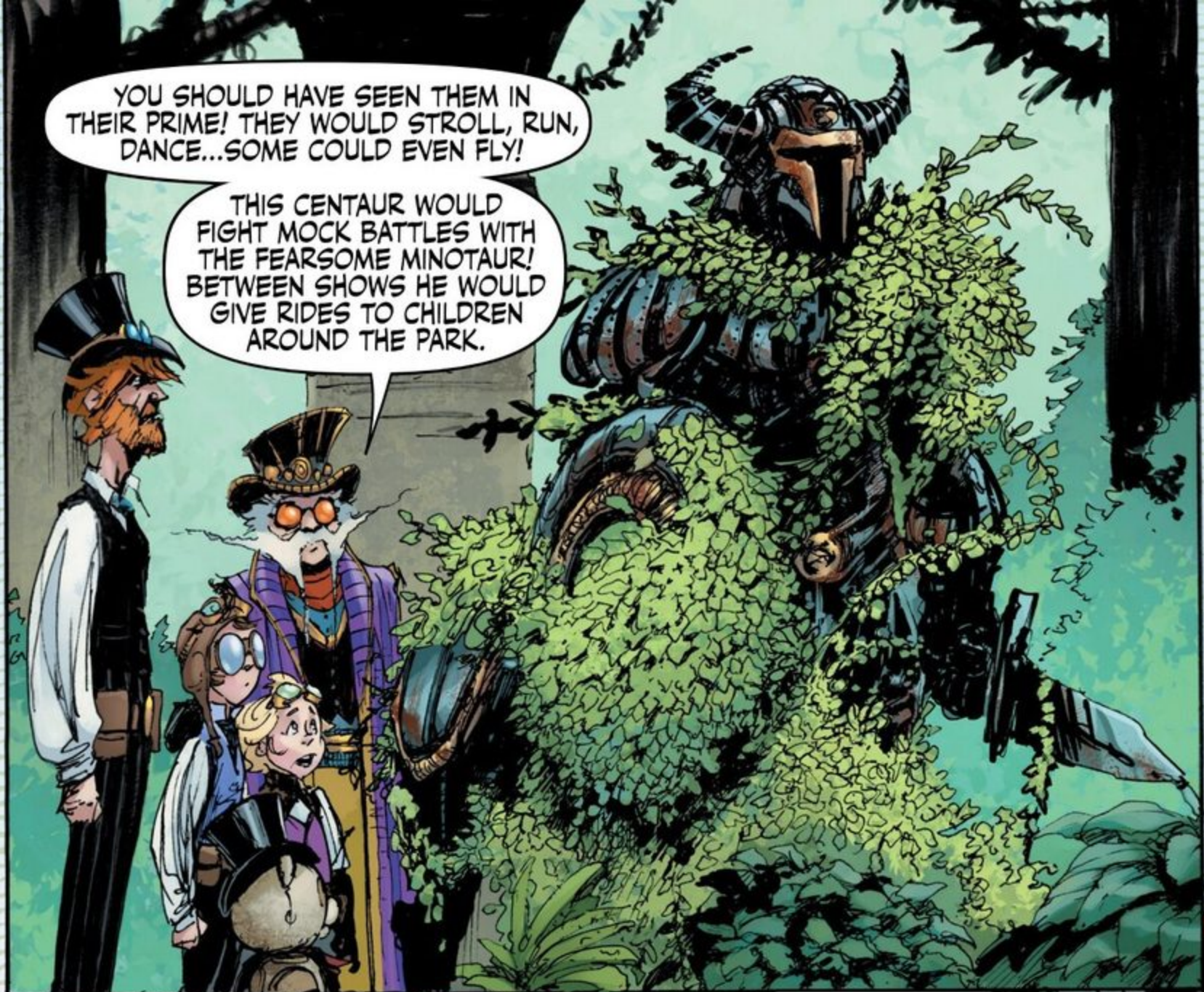
THIS PLACE REALLY IS WONDERFUL! THERE ARE SO MANY CREATURES TO SEE!

I COULD STAY HERE FOREVER!

YOU DESIGNED ALL OF THESE YOURSELF, MISTER WHIM?

I DID.

MATE, YOU'RE A BLOODY GENIUS!



YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THEM IN THEIR PRIME! THEY WOULD STROLL, RUN, DANCE...SOME COULD EVEN FLY!

THIS CENTAUR WOULD FIGHT MOCK BATTLES WITH THE FEARSOME MINOTAUR! BETWEEN SHOWS HE WOULD GIVE RIDES TO CHILDREN AROUND THE PARK.



AND THIS GARGOYLE WOULD STAND UP AND FLAP ITS WINGS AND ROAR IF IT SENSED ANYONE APPROACHING.



OOOOH! WHAT DID THE MERMAIDS DO?

AH, THESE ARE SIRENS, AND EVERY TWENTY MINUTES THEY WOULD SING A HAUNTING LITTLE MELODY, A THREE-PART HARMONY THAT I COMPOSED MYSELF!

CAN YOU MAKE THEM MOVE FOR US, MR. WHIM? PLEASE! WE'D REALLY LOVE TO SEE IT!



I AM AFRAID THAT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE.



WHY NOT?

THEY ARE ALL BROKEN, AND I DO NOT KNOW HOW TO FIX THEM.



I DON' UNDERSTAND. I THOUGH' YOU DESIGNED 'EM.



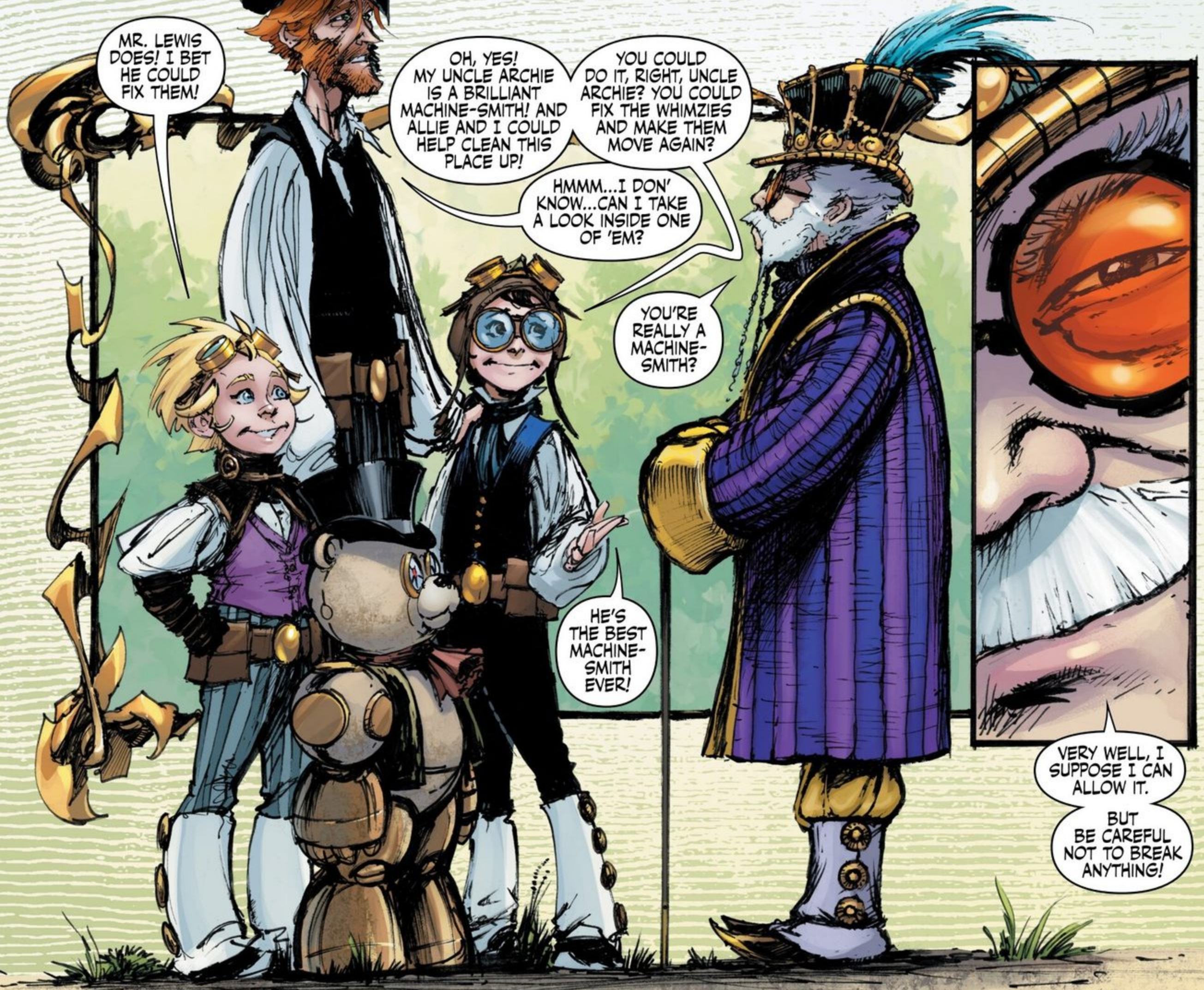
YES, I DESIGNED ALL OF THEM. AND SCULPTED AND BUILT THEM WITH MY OWN TWO HANDS! BUT IT WAS JIANG'S JOB TO TINKER WITH THE INTERNAL WORKINGS.



OH.



I'M AN ARTIST. I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT MECHANICS AND WHATNOT.



MR. LEWIS DOES! I BET HE COULD FIX THEM!

OH, YES! MY UNCLE ARCHIE IS A BRILLIANT MACHINE-SMITH! AND ALLIE AND I COULD HELP CLEAN THIS PLACE UP!

YOU COULD DO IT, RIGHT, UNCLE ARCHIE? YOU COULD FIX THE WHIMZIES AND MAKE THEM MOVE AGAIN?

HMMM...I DON' KNOW...CAN I TAKE A LOOK INSIDE ONE OF 'EM?

YOU'RE REALLY A MACHINE-SMITH?

HE'S THE BEST MACHINE-SMITH EVER!



VERY WELL, I SUPPOSE I CAN ALLOW IT.

BUT BE CAREFUL NOT TO BREAK ANYTHING!

WHAT A LOAD OF RUBBISH!

YES, BUT I DO BELIEVE THE PART ABOUT ANONYMOUS CLIENTS. THESE TYPES OF OPERATIONS ARE OFTEN HANDLED IN SUCH A MANNER. IT MAY ACTUALLY BE TRUE THAT THEY DON'T KNOW WHO HIRED THEM.

I GUESS I'LL NEVER KNOW FOR CERTAIN IF BLACKPOOL WAS THE ONE WHO ARRANGED THE AMBUSH.

THANK YOU FOR LOOKING INTO THIS MATTER FOR ME, INSPECTOR. I KNOW YOU HAVE A HEAVY CASELOAD WHICH MUST KEEP YOU BUSY.

THEY DO KEEP PILING ALL THE "UNIMPORTANT" CASES ON MY DESK, WHICH IS MOST OF THEM, BUT I MANAGE.

I'LL CONTINUE TO KEEP AN EAR OUT.

THANK YOU. I APPRECIATE IT.

I SUPPOSE I SHOULD GET BACK TO THOSE CASES... UNLESS YOU'LL ALLOW ME TO TAKE YOU OUT TO DINNER?

EVEN "LEGENDS" NEED TO EAT...



ONCE THE WHIMZIES BEGAN TO MALFUNCTION, I HAD NO IDEA HOW TO REPAIR THEM. I TRIED HIRING OTHER ENGINEERS, BUT TO NO AVAIL. NO ONE COULD FIX THEM AND SOME ACTUALLY MADE THEM EVEN WORSE.

I WAS AFRAID THAT BASTARD JIANG MIGHT HAVE BUILT SOME KIND OF TRICK INTO THE INTERNAL MECHANISMS SO THAT ONLY HE COULD MAINTAIN THEM. THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN JUST LIKE HIM, THE NO GOOD SWINDLER.

HMMM...I DON' SEE ANYTHIN' LIKE THA' IN 'ERE BUT THE MACHINERY IS VERY COMPLEX. A PROPER WORK OF ART, I'D SAY.

I'M NO' SURPRISED YOUR AVERAGE ENGINEER DIDN' KNOW 'OW TO MAKE SENSE OF IT, ESPECIALLY THIRY, FOR'Y YEARS AGO.

DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU COULD FIX THEM?

I THINK SO. I'M NO' SEEIN' ANY MAJOR DAMAGE...THINK IT JUST NEEDS SOME CLEANIN' UP, A FEW WORN PARTS REPLACED...

I...I AM AFRAID I DON'T HAVE ANY FUNDS TO PAY YOU.

SHOULDN'T BE TOO DIFFICULT. TELL YOU WHA'. HOW ABOUT I'LL FIX THEM IF YOU LET THE GIRLS PLAY IN THE PARK?

IF YOU CAN BRING MY WHIMZIES BACK TO LIFE, I WILL GIVE ALL OF YOU LIFETIME MEMBERSHIPS!

YES!

LET'S GET STARTED CLEANING! I SAW SOME GARDEN TOOLS OVER BY THE ENTRANCE...

I'LL NEED TO GE' SOME MORE TOOLS AN' SPARE PARTS.

THERE MIGHT BE SOME OF WHAT YOU NEED IN THE STORAGE SHED. COME WITH ME...

SHHWWKT



≡SNIFF≡
≡SNIFF≡ IT'S
STUFFY IN
'ERE! AN'
DUSTY!



AH YES,
WELL, I DO NOT
BELIEVE ANYONE
HAS BEEN IN HERE
SINCE THE PARK
CLOSED.



WHA'S
THIS? ≡KOFF≡
≡KOFF≡

NO, DON'T
TOUCH IT!



THIS WAS A SPECIAL SENTRY
WHIMZIE. WE HAD SEVERAL OF THEM
STANDING GUARD THROUGHOUT THE PARK
TO PROTECT OUR GUESTS IN CASE OF ANY
TROUBLEMAKERS. BUT THEY BECAME
DANGEROUS WHEN THEY STARTED
MALFUNCTIONING.

THIS ONE TRIED
TO LOCK ME IN
THE BASEMENT
WHEN IT THOUGHT
I WAS BEING
ATTACKED BY
A PIGEON!

ALMOST BROKE
MY LEG TRYING
TO STOP IT! MY
KNEE HASN'T
BEEN THE SAME
SINCE.



BEST TO
KEEP THEM
DISABLED. JUST
BE CERTAIN NOT
TO TOUCH ANY
WHIMZIES WITH
THIS SYMBOL
HERE!

UNDERSTOOD.



I DON'
SEE WHAT I'M
LOOKIN' FOR 'ERE.
BUT I SHOULD 'AVE
SOME SPARE PARTS
IN MY WORKSHOP
THA' WILL FIT
THE BILL.

WHY DON' WE COME
BACK TOMORROW? THEN
WE'LL 'AVE A FULL DAY
TO WORK ON THESE
BEASTIES.

I REALLY APPRECIATE
THIS, MR. LEWIS. I DO
HOPE YOU'LL BE ABLE
TO FIX MY POOR
WHIMZIES!





GIRLS!



TIME
TO BE
OFF.



CAN'T WE
STAY A LITTLE
LONGER, UNCLE
ARCHIE?



IT'S GETTIN'
LATE, AN' WE NEED TO
GET ALLIE HOME. DON'
WANT DR. LITTLETON TO
BE WORRIED.

WE CAN
COME BACK
TOMORROW...IF
YOUR FATHER
SAYS IT'S OKAY,
ALLIE.



I'M SURE
HE WILL, MR.
LEWIS. I CAN
CONVINCE
HIM!





THANKS,
UNCLE ARCHIE!
THIS IS THE
BEST PLACE
EVER!

I CAN'T
WAIT TO
SEE ALL THE
WHIMZIES
MOVING...

TO BE CONTINUED...

NEXT TIME IN LADY MECHANIKA



As Mr. Lewis, Fred, and Allie cross paths with strange mechanical creatures at the abandoned World of Whimzies amusement park, Lady Mechanika and Inspector Singh are drawn into a missing-persons case, one with ties to a past investigation best left buried.

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THE LOST BOYS OF WEST ABBEY

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LA BELLE DAME SANS MERCI

SANGRE

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THE DEVIL IN THE LAKE

THE MECHANICAL MENAGERIE

LADY MECHANIKA:
STEAMPUNK COLORING BOOK I

LADY MECHANIKA:
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In *The Mechanical Menagerie*, the tenth stand-alone story in the LADY MECHANIKA series, Mr. Lewis, Fred, and Allie stumble upon an abandoned amusement park and unwittingly awaken something that should have remained forgotten. A curious tale by guest writer Madeleine Holly-Rosing (BOSTON METAPHYSICAL SOCIETY)!



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